

Item # 12

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: Park Name Change - Mullet Lake Park to Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park

DEPARTMENT: Library & Leisure Services **DIVISION:** Parks & Recreation

AUTHORIZED BY: *J. Suzy Goldman* **CONTACT:** J. Suzy Goldman **EXT.** 7490

Agenda Date 09/09/03 Regular ☐ Consent ☒ Work Session ☐ Briefing ☐
Public Hearing – 1:30 ☐ Public Hearing – 7:00 ☐

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Approve renaming of Mullet Lake Park to Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park

BACKGROUND:

In 1944 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Levy donated 55 acres of the overall 151 acres of what today is Mullet Lake Park.

On July 2, 1957 the Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution naming the park in honor of Mr. Levy as Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park.

On May 10, 1994 the Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution referring to the name of the park as Mullet Lake Park and ordering the placement of a plaque at the park honoring the Levy's for their land donation. The plaque was presented to the son and daughter of the Levy's. The plaque is at the park.

In June 2003 staff received a letter from Richard Creedon, President of the Geneva Citizens Association, Inc. referencing the 1957 Resolution and requesting that this resolution be honored through changing the sign of the park to the full name.

Staff has also spoken to the surviving Levy heirs, Rose Edith Jacobson of Sanford and Selma Newman of Altamonte Springs. Mrs. Jacobson and Mrs. Newman are Mr. Henry Levy's nieces and daughters of his brother, David Levy. Both are interested in having Mr. Levy officially recognized for his donation by renaming the park in his honor.

Consistent with the naming policy approved by the BCC via resolution on October 9, 2001, the proposed name was submitted to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for consideration on August 13, 2003. It was approved that day.

The cost associated with renaming the park are limited to sign replacement at \$1,200.

Reviewed by:	_____
Co Atty:	_____
DFS:	_____
Other:	_____
DCM:	<u><i>JS</i></u>
CM:	<u><i>JS</i></u>
File No.	<u>CLLP01</u>

ATTACHMENT "A"

PROPOSAL FOR THE NAMING OF A SEMINOLE COUNTY PARK OR RELATED FACILITY

*This form is to be completed and submitted to the Seminole County Library * Leisure Services Department for consideration of a potential name for a park site, amenity or facility. Final authority for the renaming of a park site, amenity or facility rests with the Board of County Commissioners.*

1. Individual Submitting: _____

Group/Organization: Geneva Citizens Association

Address: 1172 Apache Drive

City, State, Zip Code: Geneva, Florida 32732-9160

E-Mail: _____

2. Site Location: Mullet Lake Park

Amenity/Facility Location: _____

Current name (if applicable): _____

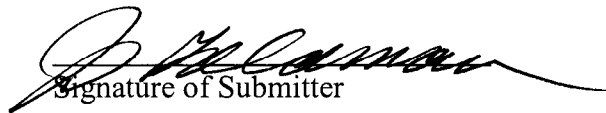
3. Proposed Name of Site/Amenity/Facility: Henry Levy – Mullet Lake Park

4. Reasons for recommendation of proposed name. Include information regarding civic involvement of honoree, historical context of honoree in Seminole County community and related information. (Copies of documentation supporting this information may be attached to this document for consideration).

In 1957, the BCC adopted a resolution renaming Mullet Lake Park as "Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park". (See attached.) The Geneva Citizens Association and the surviving relatives of Mr. Levy, Mrs. Rose Edith Jacobson of Sanford and Mrs. Selma Newman of Altamonte Springs, request that the name "Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park" be reinstated.

5. Additional information/comments to be reviewed as part of this proposal.

(See attached background information)


Signature of Submitter

7/15/03
Date of Submission

GENEVA CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC.
1172 APACHE DRIVE
GENEVA, FL 32732-9160

July 1, 2003

Mrs. Suzy Goldman, Director
Seminole County Library & Leisure Services
1101 E. First St.
Sanford, FL 32771

Re: Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park

Dear Mrs. Goldman:

Please refer to my letter to Joe Gasparini dated June 3 and his reply dated June 12, 2003.


When this land was donated to the County in 1957, it was understood between the Levy family and the County that the park was to be forever named Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park. Hence the BCC resolution of July 2, 1957 was adopted.

It is understandable that the County updated its official list of parks in 1991 and I am certain that no disrespect was meant to Henry & Rose Levy by the process. I would venture that the employees who worked on this project were not aware of the covenant made with the Levys at the time of their gracious donation. Unfortunately, their innocent action caused a breaking of faith with the donors and their heirs. As nice as the building plaque is, it does not rectify the injustice done postumously to the donors.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that the official park name revert to that agreed at the time of the land donation and that the existing green and white painted sign at the park entrance have the words "Henry Levy" inserted at the top in lieu of repainting the entire sign.

We hope that you agree that this is a simple solution to the inadvertent error by County staff in 1991.

Sincerely,


Richard T. Creedon
President

cc: Mr. Joe Gasparini
Parks and Recreation Manager

RESOLUTION

ON MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KRIDER,
SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SWOFFORD, THE
FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AT THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ON JULY 2nd, A. D. 1957:

WHEREAS, Henry Levy conveyed and transferred to
Seminole County, State of Florida, certain land owned by him known
as Mullet Lake Park situate in Seminole County, and

WHEREAS, this property was conveyed to Seminole
County for the use and enjoyment of the citizens of Seminole County
and the citizens of the Central Florida area, and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners in and
for Seminole County desire to express their sincere and genuine
appreciation to Henry Levy for this generous gift to Seminole County


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of
County Commissioners in and for Seminole County, Florida, this
2nd day of July, A. D. 1957, do hereby name, designate and cause
to be hereafter known said property known as Mullet Lake Park to
be henceforth known as Henry Levy Mullet Lake Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolu-
tion be sent to Henry Levy, Geneva, Florida, evidencing this Board's
sincere appreciation for this generous gift.

CERTIFICATE

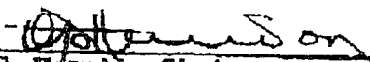
STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF SEMINOLE


I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a
true and correct copy of a Resolution passed by the Board of County



Commissioners of Seminole County at their regular meeting held
on the 2nd day of July, A. D. 1937, as same appears on the record
in the Minute Book for said County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
and affixed the official seal of the Board of County Commissioners
this the ¹⁴12 day of July, A. D. 1937.


O. F. Herndon, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
in and for Seminole County, Florida.



Background

Subsequent to the 1957 BCC Resolution, there were two resolutions during the 1990's where the name of the park was reaffirmed by the Board of County Commissioners as Mullet Lake Park. These are Resolution No. 91-R-49 and Resolution 94-R-127.

In 91-R-49 the Board officially designated certain County-owned property as County Parks. The official name and legal description of each park was defined at that time. Resolution 94-R-127 was adopted by the Board to honor the Levy family and their donation of property that established, in part, Mullet Lake Park. The Resolution also directed that a plaque commemorating the land grant be placed at the site. The plaque is located on the front side of the restroom building at the park and reads, "Mullet Lake Park – In recognition of H.S. Levy and Irene P. Levy who in 1944 granted 55 acres of beautiful high hammock land adjacent to the St. John's River to be dedicated as a public park."

Based upon this review, the current signage is consistent with the most recent Board action regarding the name of the park.